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LOFTUS
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

REPORT

for the Year 1971

of the Medical Officer of Health

T. M. B. ROHAN,
M.B., BCh., B.A.O., D.P.H.



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TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS
OF THE
LOFTUS URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

MR. CHAIRMAN, MADAM AND GENTLEMEN,

I beg to submit my Annual Report for the year 1971 the contents of which are in accordance with the regulations of the Ministry of Health.

The table of classification of the causes of death shows a total of 90 with diseases of the heart and circulation to take its usual first place, with cancer a close second.

The attendance of children at the clinic continued to grow and the immunisation figures for the district remained most satisfactory.

I would like to record my thanks to the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee for their encouragement throughout the year.

To the Heads of Departments I am again obliged for their co-operation at all times. To Mr. W. C. Ranson, whose report follows mine, I owe a special debt for his unstinted help in all matters concerning the health of the District.

Finally, I wish to thank the two clerical officers, Mr. R. K. Nuttall and Mrs. J. Wilson who working in the Area Health Office, have contributed to the smooth conduct of affairs.

I am, Madam and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

T. M. B. ROHAN,

Medical Officer of Health

TABLE I
Public Health Officers

| Whole Time Officers | Guisborough Urban District | Skelton & Brotton Urban District | Loftus Urban District |
|---|-------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--|
| Medical Officer of Health who is also Asst. County Medical Officer No. 4, Area N.R.C.C. and School Medical Officer, N.R.C.C. | Dr. T. M. B. Rohan | | |
| Public Health Inspectors | Mr. E. Ward | Mr. J. H. Rhodes | *Mr. W. C. Ranson |
| Additional Public Health Inspectors | | Mr. R. M. Chalmers | Mr. W. Murray Mr. A. A. Kirkwood |

*Also Surveyor of the district concerned

County Public Health Staff attached to the Loftus Area

| | |
|-----------------------|-----------------------------|
| Miss H. M. Bell | Health Visitor/School Nurse |
| Mrs. B. M. Cunningham | Health Visitor/School Nurse |
| Miss E. Pressick | District Nurse/Midwife |
| Mr. R. K. Nuttall | Senior Clerk |
| Mrs. J. Wilson | Clerk typist |

SECTION I

Statistics and Social Conditions of the Area

Population

The Registrar-Generals' estimate of the population of the district in the mid-year 1971 is 7,930 as compared with the 1970 estimate of 8,070.

General Statistics

I am indebted to the Financial Officer of the Council for the following figures:

| | | |
|----|---|----------|
| 1. | Area of the District in acres | 9,974 |
| 2. | No. of inhabited houses according to the rate books | 2,741 |
| 3. | Rateable Value | £308,676 |
| 4. | Sum represented by a penny rate | £2,957 |

The District consists of the town of Loftus, the industrial communities of Skinninggrove and part of Carlin How and the communities of Liverton, Scaling, Easington, Street Houses and Cowbar. The principal industries today are the iron and steel works and agriculture.

TABLE 2 Vital Statistics

CAUSES OF DEATH

| | | | | | | MALE | FEMALE |
|--------------------------------------|----|----|----|----|----|------|--------|
| Tuberculosis, Respiratory | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | — | — |
| Tuberculosis, Other | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | — | — |
| Leukemia | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | — | — |
| Malignant Neoplasm — Stomach | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | — | 2 |
| Malignant Neoplasm — Lung, Bronchus | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 2 | 1 |
| Other Malignant Neoplasms, etc. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 2 | 2 |
| Diabetes Mellitus | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | — | 1 |
| Other Endocrine, etc. Diseases | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | — | 1 |
| Anaemias | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 1 | — |
| Mental Disorders | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | — | — |
| Other Diseases of the Nervous System | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 1 | 1 |
| Hypertensive Disease | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 1 | — |
| Chronic Rheumatic Heart Disease | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | — | — |
| Ischaemic Heart Disease | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 20 | 7 |
| Other Forms of Heart Disease | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 1 | 2 |
| Cerebrovascular Disease | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 2 | 8 |
| Other Disease of Circulatory System | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 2 | 3 |
| Influenza | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | — | — |
| Pneumonia | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 4 | 1 |
| Bronchitis and Emphysema | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 2 | — |
| Other Disease of Respiratory System | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | — | — |
| Intestinal Obstruction and Hernia | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | — | — |
| Other Diseases of Digestive System | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 1 | 1 |
| Nephritis and Nephrosis | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | — | 1 |
| Birth Injury, Difficult Labour, etc. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | — | 1 |
| Motor Vehicle Accidents | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 1 | — |
| Congenital Anomalies | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 1 | 1 |
| Suicide and Self-Inflicted Injuries | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | — | — |
| All Other External Causes | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 1 | — |
| | | | | | | — | — |
| ALL CAUSES | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 42 | 33 |
| | | | | | | — | — |

Deaths

The deaths are classified under thirty-six headings based on the Abbreviated List of International Statistical Classification of Diseases, Injuries and Causes of Death, 1948. 75 deaths of residents gave a corrected death-rate of 11.3 per 1,000 of population compared to 11.6 for England and Wales.

TABLE 3

Vital Statistics

| | | | | MALE | FEMALE | TOTAL |
|--------------|----|----|----|------|--------|-------|
| Live Births | .. | .. | .. | 51 | 56 | 107 |
| Legitimate | .. | .. | .. | 47 | 50 | 97 |
| Illegitimate | .. | .. | .. | 4 | 6 | 10 |
| <hr/> | | | | | | |
| Still Births | .. | .. | .. | — | 2 | 2 |
| Legitimate | .. | .. | .. | — | 2 | 2 |
| Illegitimate | .. | .. | .. | — | — | — |

Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age

| | | | | | | MALE | FEMALE |
|--------------|----|----|----|----|----|------|--------|
| Total | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 2 | 2 |
| Legitimate | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 1 | 2 |
| Illegitimate | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 1 | — |

Births

The number of births registered in the district during the year was 107, giving a corrected birth rate of 14.4 per thousand of the population compared to 16.0 for England and Wales.

There were four deaths of infants under the age of one year, giving an infant mortality of 37.4 per thousand live births compared to the rate for England and Wales of 17.6.

TABLE 4
NOTIFIABLE DISEASES 1965
(other than tuberculosis)

| | All Ages | Under 1 year | 1 year | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5— | 10 | 15 | 25 | 35 | 45— | 65 | Age Un- known |
|--------------------------|-------------|-----------------|--------|---|---|---|----|----|----|----|----|-----|----|---------------------|
| Scarlet Fever .. | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Pneumonia .. | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Erysipela .. | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Measles .. | 3 | — | — | — | — | 1 | 2 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Whooping Cough .. | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Inte tive Hepatitis .. | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Typhoid .. | 1 | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Meningo-coccal Infection | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Malaria .. | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Purpural Pyrexia .. | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Dysentery .. | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |

TABLE 5**Tuberculosis**

One new case of respiratory tuberculosis and none of non-respiratory tuberculosis were notified during the year. There were no deaths from this disease.

TABLE 6**Immunisation and Vaccination**

| | | | | |
|--|----------------|---------------|-----------------------|--------------|
| Immunisation against Diptheria | UNDER 1 | 1 to 4 | 5 to 14 | TOTAL |
| Completed | 95 | 16 | 107 | 218 |
| Immunisation against Whooping Cough | | 0 to 4 | 5 to 14 | TOTAL |
| Completed | | 111 | — | 111 |
| Vaccination (Smallpox) | PRIMARY | | RE-VACCINATION | |
| | 26 | | 30 | |
| Poliomyelitis Vaccination | PRIMARY | | REINFORCING | |
| | 129 | | 121 | |

The General Provision of Health Services in the District**1. Laboratory Facilities**

This work is now done at the Public Health Laboratory, Middlesbrough, only the biological test for tuberculosis milk being carried out at the Public Health Laboratory, Northallerton.

2. National Assistance Acts, 1948 and 1951 — Section 47.

There was no procedure taken under these acts during 1971.

SECTION II

ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1971

By W. C. Ranson, M.R.S.H.

Surveyor and Public Health Inspector

**To The Chairman and Members of the
Loftus Urban District Council**

MR. CHAIRMAN, MADAM AND GENTLEMEN

I have pleasure in submitting my Annual Report on the work carried out by my Department, during the year ended 31st December, 1971

Water Supplies

The Loftus Urban District Council are not the statutory water undertakers for the district this duty being carried out by the Tees Valley and Cleveland Water Board, who are responsible for the bacteriological sampling and analysis of all raw water before passing to the distributing mains. There is only one reservoir, situated at Scaling Dam, within the district and the results of samples taken at this reservoir are set out in the following table which has been supplied by the Tees Valley and Cleveland Water Board

TABLE 1
SCALING DAM SUPPLY

Analysis Summary 1st January to 31st December, 1971

Chemical Examination (Results in parts per million except where othrewise stated)

| No of samples collected | 13 | .. | .. | .. | Average | Maximum | Minimum |
|--|----|----|----|----|---------|---------|---------|
| | | | | | | | |
| Ammoniacal Nitrogen | .. | .. | .. | .. | 0.06 | 0.13 | 0.01 |
| Albuminoid Nitrogen | .. | .. | .. | .. | 0.09 | 0.15 | 0.06 |
| Nitrite Nitrogen | .. | .. | .. | .. | <0.01 | <0.01 | <0.01 |
| Nitrate Nitrogen | .. | .. | .. | .. | 0.25 | 0.55 | <0.25 |
| Oxygen absorbed from Permanganate in 4 hrs. at 27°C | .. | .. | .. | .. | 0.8 | 1.4 | 0.3 |
| Colour (Hazen) | .. | .. | .. | .. | 1 | 5 | NIL |
| Turbidity as Silica | .. | .. | .. | .. | 1.1 | 1.8 | 0.6 |

| | Average | Maximum | Minimum |
|---|---------|---------|---------|
| pH | 7.2 | 7.8 | 6.5 |
| Free Carbon Dioxide | 5 | 8 | 3 |
| Alkalinity as CaCO ₃ | 30 | 40 | 20 |
| Carbonate Hardness as CaCO ₃ | 30 | 40 | 20 |
| Non-Carbonate Hardness as CaCO ₃ | 25 | 35 | 15 |
| Total Hardness as CaCO ₃ | 55 | 60 | 50 |
| Calcium Hardness as CaCO ₃ | 35 | 45 | 30 |
| Magnesium Hardness as CaCO ₃ | 20 | 25 | 10 |
| Chlorides as Cl | 21 | 27 | 19 |
| Silicates as SiO ₂ | 2.5 | 3.5 | 1.5 |
| Iron as Fe | 0.06 | 0.22 | <0.04 |
| Dissolved Solids (dried at 180°C) | 130 | 150 | 120 |
| Sodium as Na | 22 | 26 | 16 |
| Potassium as K | 1.0 | 1.3 | 0.8 |
| Conductivity at 20°C (micromhos) | 200 | 220 | 180 |

< = less than

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION

| | Average | Maximum | Minimum |
|---|---------|---------|---------|
| Colony count per ml on yeast extract agar after 1 day at 37°C | <1 | 3 | NIL |
| Colony count per ml on yeast extract agar after 2 days at 37°C | 1 | 8 | NIL |

| | | | |
|---|----|----|----|
| No. of Samples collected for Bacteriological analysis during the period | .. | .. | 56 |
| No. of Samples showing No reaction for coliforms per 100 mls | .. | .. | 56 |
| No. of samples showing No reaction for E.coli per 100 mls | .. | .. | 56 |

The natural fluoride content of the water supplied by The Tees Valley & Cleveland Water Board varies between 0.1 and 0.2 parts per million and further fluoride is not added to the water by the Board.

It is estimated that within the district, 2,884 dwellings (providing accommodation for approximately 7,750 persons) out of a total of 2,924 dwellings are supplied by piped water mains direct to the houses. The remaining dwellings are supplied with piped water into the dwellings from small private water supplies and are situated mostly in rural areas within the boundary of the Urban District. There are no dwellings supplied from piped water mains by means of stand pipes.

59 samples of water were taken during the year from various supply points throughout the district and were submitted for bacteriological examination. 7 of these samples from the private supply to South Loftus showed a quality below Class 1. 2 of these results were interspersed with Class 1 samples and could have been due to either a temporary contamination or sampling flaws. The other 5 samples were due to contamination at the source of the supply. As a result of investigations, the source of the contamination was found and works were immediately put in hand to prevent further contamination of the water supply. These works were still continuing at the end of the year.

The following table shews the results of samples of water taken at the point of supply to the consumer.

TABLE 2

| Area of Supply | | | | Classification | | | | | | | | | | | |
|-------------------------------------|----|----|----|----------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| Tees Valley & Cleveland Water Board | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Supply to Loftus | .. | .. | .. | .. | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Tees Valley & Cleveland Water Board | | | | .. | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Supply to Liverton Mines | .. | .. | .. | .. | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Tees Valley & Cleveland Water Board | | | | .. | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Supply to Liverton Village | .. | .. | .. | .. | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Tees Valley & Cleveland Water Board | | | | .. | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Supply to Skinningrove | .. | .. | .. | .. | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Tees Valley & Cleveland Water Board | | | | .. | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Supply to Easington | .. | .. | .. | .. | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Private Supply to South Loftus | | | | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| | | | | | 1 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 3 | 2 | 2 | 2 |

Food Poisoning

During the year, the local medical practitioners reported 11 cases of suspected food poisoning. 352 swabs were submitted to the Public Health Laboratory at Middlesbrough for examination. 8 of the cases returned negative results and the results of the 3 remaining cases were as follows:-

In one case, *Salmonella panama* was isolated and in another case, *Staphylococcus Aureus* was isolated.

The third case concerned a 9 year old schoolboy who had recently returned from a visit to his grandparents in Germany and in this case, *Salmonella typhimurium* was isolated. In this connection, 4 swabs were taken from the patient before removal to hospital, 69 from the family and direct personal contacts, 54 from the school meals service at the school he attended, 118 from pupil contacts at his school and 11 from food handlers who may have been remotely in contact with any member of the family and 2 from the main sewer — a total of 258 swabs being taken during this investigation. All returned negative results and it was not found possible to trace the source of the infection.

Food Handlers

Due to pressure of work in the department and at the Public Health Laboratory, the practice of periodic swabbing of all persons employed in the handling of food was not practicable during the year.

Food Hygiene Regulations, 1965, and Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, 1970

In accordance with the Food Hygiene Regulations, 1965, and Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, 1970, 108 inspections of food premises were carried out during the year, by your Inspectors and 44 infringements of the Regulations were noted. 34 were remedied by informal action and works were put in hand to remedy the remaining 10.

Owners of food premises throughout the district have again co-operated with your Inspectors during the year and the general standard of food hygiene in all food premises was found to be very good.

The following table shows the number of food premises of various types within the Urban District.

TABLE 3

| Premises | | | | | Complying with Reg. 16 | Complying with Reg. 19 | Reg. 19 Applies |
|--------------------------|----|----|----|----|------------------------------|------------------------------|--------------------|
| Butchers | .. | .. | .. | .. | 4 | 4 | 4 |
| Fishmongers | .. | .. | .. | .. | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Grocers | .. | .. | .. | .. | 21 | 21 | 21 |
| Bakers and Confectioners | .. | .. | .. | .. | 4 | 4 | 4 |
| Sweets and General Goods | .. | .. | .. | .. | 26 | 26 | 26 |
| Canteens | .. | .. | .. | .. | 9 | 9 | 9 |
| Licensed Premises | .. | .. | .. | .. | 18 | 18 | 18 |
| Fish frying premises | .. | .. | .. | .. | 5 | 5 | 5 |
| Bakchouses | .. | .. | .. | .. | 2 | 2 | 2 |
| Greengrocers | .. | .. | .. | .. | 5 | 5 | 5 |

Licensed Premises

There are 18 licensed premises within the area and during the year, your Inspectors carried out 35 inspections.

Fish Frying

The 5 fish frying premises within the district were inspected on 14 occasions during the year, when it was noted that the standard of cleanliness and hygiene was good and the premises were well maintained.

Bakehouses

There were 3 bakehouses operating within the district at the beginning of the year and one ceased to operate during the year. 10 inspections were carried out and 6 minor infringements were remedied by informal action.

Meat Inspection

The 2 privately owned Slaughterhouses within the district continued to operate throughout the year and the throughput of animals was 22,630 — an increase of approximately 7.63% over the previous year.

A 100% inspection of all meat slaughtered has been maintained by your inspectors and in this connection, 658 visits were made to the slaughterhouses.

In order to cover the Bank Holiday periods and other times when slaughtering was carried on outside normal office hours, a rota system was operated by your Inspectors. As a result of these inspections, 4 tons 19 cwt., 51 lbs. of meat and offal were condemned as being diseased or otherwise unfit for human consumption and the whole of this meat was subject to voluntary surrender.

Both Slaughterhouses continued to operate in a satisfactory manner during the year and as a result of the co-operation between your Inspectors and the owners, the amount of meat inspection carried out outside normal office hours was kept to a minimum. It was not, therefore, necessary to control the times of slaughter in accordance with the Meat Inspection Regulations, 1966.

The following tables shew meat and offal inspected and condemned during the year and the reasons for condemnation.

Table, 4a -- Carcasses and Offal inspected and condemned in whole or in part

| | Cattle exclud- ing cows | Cows | Calves | Sheep & Lambs | Pigs | Horses |
|---|-------------------------------|--------|--------|---------------------|-------|--------|
| Number killed | 3718 | 47 | 56 | 11814 | 6995 | — |
| Number inspected | 3718 | 47 | 56 | 11814 | 6995 | — |
| All diseases except tubercu- losis and Cysticerici | | | | | | |
| Whole carcasses condemned .. | 2 | — | — | 6 | 3 | — |
| Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned .. | 275 | 42 | 1 | 149 | 451 | — |
| Percentage of the number in- spected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerici | 7.45% | 89.36% | 1.78% | 1.31% | 6.49% | — |
| Tuberculosis only: | | | | | | |
| Whole carcasses condemned .. | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Carcasses of which some part or or organ was condemned .. | — | — | — | — | 63 | — |
| Percentage of the number in- spected affected with tuber- culosis | — | — | — | — | 0.90% | — |
| Cysticercosis: | | | | | | |
| Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned .. | 2 | — | — | — | — | — |
| Carcasses submitted to treat- ment by refrigeration .. | 2 | — | — | — | — | — |
| Generalised and totally con- demned | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Percentage of number affected with Cysticercus Bovis .. | 0.05% | — | — | — | — | — |

Table 4b

| | | | |
|-------------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------|
| 9 Beast Livers | —Telangiectasis | 10 Pig Plucks | Pleurisy and Peritonitis |
| 159 Beast Livers | —Abscesses | 63 Pig Heads | Tuberculosis |
| 40 Beast Livers | —Parasitical | 7 Pig Heads | Abscesses |
| 47 Beast Livers | —Distomatosis | 5 Pig Lungs | Pleurisy |
| 38 Beast Livers | —Cirrhosis | 9 Pig Lungs | Pneumonia |
| 1 Beast Liver | —Peritonitis | 2 Pig Lungs | Adhesions |
| 1 Beast Liver | —Melanosis | 1 Pig Kidney | Hydro-nephrosis |
| 1 Beast Kidney | —Hydro-nephrosis | 1 Pig Kidney | Adhesions |
| 2 Beast Kidneys | —Abscesses | 1 Sow Udder | Mastitis |
| 5 Beast Lungs | —Pleurisy | 2 Sheep Livers | Cirrhosis |
| 1 Beast Lungs | —Congestion | 127 Sheep Livers | —Parasitical |
| 1 Beast Lungs | —Abscesses | 4 Sheep Livers | —Distomatosis |
| 11 Beast Lungs | —Pneumonia | 1 Sheep Heart | —Pericarditis |
| 5 Beast Hearts | —Degenerated Cysts | 2 Sheep Plucks | —Distomatosis |
| 2 Beast Hearts | —Pericarditis | 2 Sheep Plucks | —Pleurisy and Peritonitis |
| 6 Beast Heads & Tongues | —Degenerated Cysts | 5 Sheep Plucks | —Abscesses |
| 2 Beast Heads & Tongues | —Abscesses | 3 Sheep Plucks | —Parasitical |
| 4 Beast Heads & Tongues | —Actinomycosis | 3 Sheep Plucks | —Adhesions |
| 1 Beast Head & Tongue | —Cysticercus Bovis* | 1 Calf Lungs | —Pneumonia |
| 1 Beast Heart | —Cysticercus Bovis* | 11 lbs. Leg of Mutton | —Abscesses |
| 20 Pig Livers | —Cirrhosis | 20 lbs Mutton | —Bruising |
| 52 Pig Livers | —Milk Spot | 8 lbs. Mutton | —Arthritic |
| 2*9 Pig Livers | —Parasitical | 64 lbs. Beef | —Severe Bruising |
| 1 Pig Liver | —Abscesses | 4 lbs. Pork | —Abscesses |
| 56 Pig Hearts | —Pericarditis | 13 lbs. Pork | —Bruising |
| 79 Pig Plucks | —Adhesions | 2 Pig Hocks | —Bruising |

*The carcasses of the 2 animals of which the Head and Tongue and Heart were affected with Cysticercus Bovis, were submitted to cold storage for the prescribed period and it was necessary to condemn all the offal as cold storage facilities could not be provided for this.

| | |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1 Carcase of Mutton and all organs | — Septic Pneumonia |
| 3 Carcases of Mutton and all organs | — Oedema with Emaciation |
| 2 Carcases of Mutton and all organs | — Oedema with Arthritis |
| 1 Carcase of Beef and all organs | — Jaundice and Uraemia |
| 2 Carcases of Beef and all organs | — Fevered and Badly Bled |
| 2 Carcases of Pork and all organs | — Septicaemia and Peritonitis |
| 1 Carcase of Pork and all organs | — Bacteraemia |
| 1 Carcase of Pork and all organs | — Generalised Arthritis |

Tinned Foods

The following table shows the amount of tinned and other foods voluntarily surrendered during the year.

TABLE 4c

| | | | | |
|-----------|----------------------|------------|----------|--------------|
| Fish | 6 lb 0 oz. | Vegetables | .. 2 cwt | 1 lb 5 oz. |
| Fruit | .. 27 lb 9 oz. | Puddings | .. 1 qtr | 8 lb 2oz. |
| Meat | .. 1 qtr 13 lb 8 oz. | Soups | .. | 14 lb 12 oz. |
| Milk | .. 16 lb 4 oz. | Cheese | .. | 3 lb 8 oz. |
| Sugar | .. 1 lb 0 oz. | Salt | .. | 1 lb 8 oz. |
| Cereals | .. 3 lb 8 oz. | Cakes | .. | 2 lb 6 oz. |
| Preserves | .. 9 lb 0 oz. | Biscuits | .. | 1 lb 0z. |

As a result of the failure of the cold storage units in two premises, it was necessary for the following food stuffs to be voluntarily surrendered.

| | |
|----------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 148 lbs—Topside of Beef | 245 lbs— Beef Steak |
| 19—Roast Beef Ready Meals | 16—Cottage Pie Ready Meals |
| 13—Roast Pork Ready Meals | 12—Steak & Kidney Pie Ready Meals |
| 10—Sausage Ready Meals | 8—Braised Steak Ready Meals |
| 4—Curried Beef Ready Meals | |

Poultry Inspection

There are no poultry processing premises within the district.

Milk Supplies

During the year, 4 samples of milk were obtained and these were submitted to the Brucella Abortus Ring Test and the Methylene Blue Test. 3 samples passed the Methylene Blue Test and returned negative results on the Brucella Abortus Ring Test. The remaining sample was void on the Methylene Blue Test, but returned negative results on the Brucella Abortus Ring Test.

Ice Cream

29 premises are registered for the sale and storage of ice cream within the district, the use of two premises for this purpose being discontinued during the year. There is no ice cream manufactured within the district.

Two samples of soft ice cream were obtained during the year and were subjected to the Methylene Blue Test. One sample was classed as Grade 1 and the other sample returned a Provisional Grade 3. As the Grade 1 sample was obtained after the Provisional Grade 3 sample, it would appear that this could have been a fault in sampling.

It is not practicable to obtain many samples of this type of ice cream, due to the inconvenient timetables of the soft ice cream vendors within the Loftus Urban District.

HOUSING

Housing Statistics

New Houses erected

| | |
|------------------------------|-----|
| a) By Private owners | 48 |
| b) By the Council | Nil |

1. Inspection of dwellinghouses during the year

| | |
|---|-----|
| 1. (a) Total number of dwellinghouses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) | 417 |
| (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose | 507 |
| 2. (a) Number of dwellinghouses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932 | Nil |
| (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose | Nil |
| 3. Number of dwellinghouses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation | 10 |
| 4. Number of dwellinghouses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found to be not in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation | 407 |

2. Remedy of defects during the year without service of formal notices

| | |
|--|-----|
| (1) Number of defective dwellinghouses rendered fit or repaired in consequence of informal action by the local authority or their officers | 407 |
|--|-----|

3. Action under Statutory Powers during the year

| | |
|---|-----|
| A Proceedings under Sections: 9 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1957 | |
| (1) Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs | Nil |
| (2) Number of dwellinghouses rendered fit after service of formal notices:- | |
| (a) By Owners | Nil |
| (b) By Local Authority in default of Owners | Nil |
| B Proceedings under Public Health Acts | |
| (1) Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied | Nil |
| (2) Number of dwellinghouses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices | |
| (a) By Owners | Nil |
| (b) By Local Authority in default of Owners | Nil |
| C Proceedings under Section 17 of the Housing Act, 1957 | |
| (1) Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made | 10 |
| (2) Number of dwellinghouses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders | 4 |

Housing Statistics—continued

| | | | | |
|-----------|---|---------------|----|-----|
| 1) | Proceedings under Sections 16, 17, 18, 26 and 35, Housing Act, 1957 | | | |
| (1) | Number of separate tenements or undergrounds rooms in respect of which closing orders were made | .. | .. | 1 |
| (2) | Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which closing orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit | .. | .. | Nil |
| 4. | Housing Act, 1936, Part 4, Overcrowding | | | |
| | No accurate figures are available | | | |
| 5. | Housing Act, 1949, and Housing Repairs and Rents Acts, 1954 and 1957 | | | |
| (1) | (a) Number of Improvement Grants made — Standard | .. | | 61 |
| | | Discretionary | | 4 |
| | (b) Number of Improvement Grants refused | .. | .. | Nil |
| (2) | (a) Number of Certificates of Disrepair granted | .. | .. | Nil |
| | (b) Number of Certificates of Disrepair revoked | .. | .. | Nil |
| 6. | Housing Act, 1969 (Section 44 (1)) | | | |
| (1) | (a) Number of applications for Qualification Certificate received | .. | | 3 |
| | (b) Number of Qualification Certificates approved | .. | .. | 1 |
| | (c) Number of Qualification Certificates refused | .. | .. | 1 |

Public Health Act, 1961 (Section 27)

During the year, it was necessary to serve notice on the owners of two properties, as these were considered to be ruinous and dilapidated. The demolition of these properties had not been carried out at the end of the year.

Sanitary Circumstances of the District

The following table shews the inspection for Nuisances which have been carried out by my department during the year. These inspections do not include inspections made under the Housing Acts, but include all inspections, other than food inspections, made during the year.

TABLE 5

Nuisances

| | | | |
|--|-----|---------------|--------|
| Total number if inspections made for nuisance only | .. | .. | 143 |
| Nuisances found | .. | .. | 57 |
| Nuisances in hand end of previous year | .. | .. | Nil |
| <hr/> | | | |
| Total needing abatement | .. | .. | 57 |
| Abated during the year | .. | .. | 57 |
| <hr/> | | | |
| Outstanding at end of year | .. | .. | Nil |
| <hr/> | | | |
| Notices served — Informal | 57 | Complied with | .. 57 |
| Notices served — Statutory | Nil | Complied with | .. Nil |
| Number of summonses or legal proceedings — Nil | | | |

Regulated Buildings, Trades, Etc.

There are no common lodging houses, houses let in lodgings, knackers' yards, or other offensive trades within the Urban District.

Byelaws in Force in the District

There are no Byelaws in force in the district.

Sanitary Accommodation

It is estimated that 2,906 houses within the Urban District are now on the water carriage system, and this figure includes 3 conversions to the system carried out during the year. Of the remaining 18 houses without the water carriage system, 7 are accessible to a sewer but the remaining 11 houses have no sewer available at the present time.

Discussions are, at the present time, taking place between my department and one owner regarding the conversion of 3 of those properties which have a sewer available.

Sewerage and Sewage Disposal

There were no complaints received regarding fouling of the beach by the disposal of sewage direct to the sea during the year.

The main sewer in the Whitecliff Beck area was again affected by a number of blockages which could only be caused by irresponsible persons. In one instance, it was necessary for the Council workmen to work throughout the Spring Bank Holiday period in order to remove obstructions. Among the many items removed from the sewer at this point was a complete motor cycle exhaust system, a number of metal rails, part of a wireless set, a number of large pieces of wood and tins, which could not have found access to the sewerage system by normal means.

Work on the provision of a sewer to Liverton Village was again delayed for various reasons outside the control of the Council.

Advice regarding drainage layouts and the use of septic tanks is freely given to property owners and builders, and all new drainage work is inspected and tested before back-filling of the trenches takes place. In this connection, co-operation between local contractors engaged on drainage works and my department continues to be very good.

Refuse Collection and Disposal

The weekly collection of refuse within the district has been maintained throughout the year, but this has only been possible by the use of other workmen from the Council's labour force to compensate for time lost due to sickness and annual leave and by the use of additional transport and men to compensate for time lost during the Bank Holiday periods.

The controlled tipping of refuse on the Deepdale Refuse Tip has continued throughout the year, but again difficulties have been experienced from time to time due to unauthorised persons gaining access to the tip and lighting fires along the tip face. There has been no danger arising from these tip fires. Due to the method of controlled tipping in use, these

fires have been extinguished fairly quickly at the beginning of each working day. Nuisance has been caused by smoke from time to time depending on the direction of the wind. All complaints received have been dealt with immediately.

Private contractors continued to collect all the refuse from the two private slaughter-houses within the district and consequently, any nuisance caused by this type of refuse has been eliminated.

Offices, Shops & Railway Premises Act, 1963

During the year, two retail shops were registered in accordance with the Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963, bringing the total number of premises registered at the end of the year, to 88

TABLE 6
Registrations and General Inspections

| Class of Premises | Number of Premises registered during the year | Number of registered premises at end of the year | Number of registered premises receiving a general inspection during the year |
|--|---|--|--|
| Offices | Nil | 16 | 2 |
| Retail Shops | 2 | 52 | 45 |
| Catering Establishments open to the public, canteens | Nil | 20 | 14 |
| Wholesale Shops. Warehouses | Nil | Nil | Nil |
| Storage depots | Nil | Nil | Nil |
| TOTALS | 2 | 88 | 61 |
| Total number of visits of all kinds by Inspectors to registered premises under the Act | | | 122 |

During the year, a total of 122 inspections were carried out and 55 contraventions of the Act were noted by your Inspectors. The total number of contraventions dealt with during the year, including the 55 outstanding from 1970, was 110, of which 84 were remedied by informal action.

The following table shews an analysis of these contraventions and the works remedied and in hand at the end of the year.

TABLE 7

| Section | Defect | Previous Year | Notified | Remedied | In Hand |
|---------|---------------------------|---------------|----------|----------|---------|
| 4 | Cleanliness | 5 | 9 | 11 | 3 |
| 6 | Temperature | 4 | 1 | 5 | — |
| 8 | Lighting | 15 | 13 | 19 | 9 |
| 9 | Sanitary Conveniences | 3 | 1 | 4 | — |
| 10 | Washing Facilities | 4 | 4 | 6 | 2 |
| 11 | Drinking Water | — | — | — | — |
| 12 | Clothing Accommodation | — | — | — | — |
| 13 | Sitting Facilities | — | — | — | — |
| 15 | Eating Facilities | — | — | — | — |
| 16 | Floors, Passages & Stairs | 12 | 10 | 18 | 4 |
| 17 | Fencing of Machinery | 1 | 4 | 4 | 1 |
| 24 | First Aid | — | 6 | 3 | 3 |
| 50 | Abstract of the Act | 11 | 7 | 14 | 4 |
| TOTAL | | 55 | 55 | 84 | 26 |

There was again a decrease in the number of works in hand at the end of the year and whilst this number is still higher than would be desired, the overall position relating to premises within the Urban District is good in comparison with other authorities throughout the country.

Moveable Dwellings

There is only one licensed caravan site in the area operating from 1st April to 31st October each year and used only by the owners of the caravans at weekends and for holidays. 3 inspections of this site were carried out during the year and it was found to be well maintained and operating satisfactorily.

One unlicensed caravan was in use within the district at the beginning of the year and this was used whilst the owner was renovating the adjoining dwellinghouse. On completion of the works to the dwellinghouse, the use of this caravan for human habitation was discontinued before the end of the year.

Site works are still continuing on the proposed caravan site at Grinkle, but as these works are not yet completed, formal application for a licence to site caravans on the land has not yet been made.

Public Conveniences

As a result of vandalism, the cost of maintaining the public convenience at Skinninggrove became so high that it was necessary during the year to demolish this convenience.

Other public conveniences throughout the district were also subject to vandalism and this necessitated the renewal of W.C. pedestals, cisterns, wash basins, ball valves, doors and locks, in addition to normal maintainance.

Daily cleansing is carried out at all conveniences, but due to their misuse by various sections of the general public, it is becoming almost impossible to maintain a reasonable standard of cleanliness.

Snow Clearance

Less time was spent on snow clearing than is normal, due to the mild winter in this area. It was still necessary for salting and gritting of the roads to be carried out outside normal working hours and at weekends, as a protection against icy conditions.

The rota system was again operated by your Inspectors throughout the winter months and especially at weekends. This ensured that icy conditions on all roads received prompt attention. In connection with this system, I would like to thank the Forecast Officers at the Meteorological Office at Newcastle for their co-operation in providing early forecasts of adverse weather conditions, and the local Police, for their early notification of unforeseen icy conditions on roads during the period midnight to 7.00 a.m., both of which assisted your Inspectors in ensuring that the main highways in Loftus were kept as free from snow or ice as was practically possible.

Clean Air Act

During the year, 21 observations were made of industrial chimneys in the area and in no case was black smoke found to be emitted.

2 Atmospheric pollution deposit guages were in use for the whole of the year. The readings showed a marked reduction due to the Ore Tipping Plant ceasing to operate at Skinninggrove Ironworks.

The smoke filter at Loftus was also in use for the whole of the year, for the registration of smoke concentration and the determination of the sulphur dioxide content. The readings obtained were normal for the type of situation in which this machine operates.

TABLE 8
Atmospheric Pollution Tests

| DEPOSIT GUAGE, SKINNINGROVE | | | | | DEPOSIT GUAGE, CARLIN HOW | | | |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------|----------|--------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------------|----------|--------------------|--------------------------------|
| Month | pH Value | Rainfall | Undissolved Matter | Fe ₂ O ₃ | pH Value | Rainfall | Undissolved Matter | Fe ₂ O ₃ |
| Jan. | 6.2 | 1.97 | 6.28 | 2.82 | 6.8 | 1.79 | 20.45 | 8.73 |
| Feb. | 7.4 | 0.82 | 8.69 | 2.70 | 7.0 | 0.71 | 11.12 | 3.90 |
| Mar. | 7.0 | 1.65 | 3.04 | 0.80 | 6.8 | 1.43 | 22.01 | 10.02 |
| April | 6.8 | 1.91 | 11.56 | 5.11 | 6.6 | 1.78 | 27.32 | 13.83 |
| May | 6.8 | 1.13 | 5.61 | 1.97 | 6.7 | 1.41 | 17.70 | 7.65 |
| June | 6.5 | 3.33 | 11.37 | 1.66 | 6.0 | 3.12 | 25.03 | 10.80 |
| July | 7.0 | 2.15 | 16.68 | 5.01 | 6.9 | 1.97 | 26.80 | 10.49 |
| Aug. | 5.5 | 4.70 | 11.36 | 5.18 | 6.0 | 4.85 | 23.40 | 9.82 |
| Sept. | 5.0 | 0.60 | 7.42 | 2.24 | 5.1 | 0.48 | 10.00 | 4.87 |
| Oct. | 5.4 | 0.87 | 7.75 | 1.34 | 5.3 | 0.70 | 10.72 | 3.92 |
| Nov. | Instrument Out of Repair | | | | 5.5 | 4.88 | 10.42 | 3.81 |
| Dec. | 5.0 | 0.40 | 18.60 | 6.41 | 6.2 | 0.24 | 50.10 | 24.50 |

Smoke Filter Loftus

| Month | Highest Value | Lowest Value | Average | Sulphur Dioxide Average |
|-------|---------------|--------------|---------|-------------------------|
| Jan | 350 | 8 | 104 | 71 |
| Feb. | 240 | 36 | 116 | 90 |
| Mar. | 170 | 36 | 95 | 62 |
| April | 138 | 4 | 73 | 53 |
| May | 64 | 14 | 35 | 43 |
| June | 90 | 14 | 37 | 35 |
| July | 35 | 9 | 19 | 24 |
| Aug. | 46 | 11 | 23 | 30 |
| Sept. | 64 | 8 | 35 | 30 |
| Oct. | 92 | 3 | 28 | 35 |
| Nov. | 113 | 11 | 59 | 46 |
| Dec. | 205 | 3 | 69 | 51 |

It should be appreciated that all readings for the deposit gauges in the Loftus area are taken from points most likely to be affected by pollution and not from sites chosen for the low readings.

Civic Amenities Act, 1967

Following investigations, informal action was taken under the provisions of the above mentioned Act in respect of 4 abandoned motor vehicles, together with the 6 which had not been removed at the end of 1970. This left a total of 10 abandoned vehicles in the district. During the year, 6 were removed by the respective owners.

Where vehicles are abandoned, a considerable amount of work is involved in tracing the ownership and in this connection, I would like to thank the Motor Taxation Officers of the various local authorities, who have to be contacted, for the help received during these investigations.

Petroleum (Regulations) Act, 1928 & 1936

Licensing of petrol storage installations under the provisions of the above mentioned Act is carried out by this authority, and at the present time, there are 8 licences for the storage of petroleum spirit in operation within the district. During the year, the storage tanks at 2 farms were removed from the ground and made safe and the underground tanks at 1 petrol filling station were filled with concrete in accordance with the conditions of the licence.

29 inspections were carried out of these installations during the year and only minor infringements were noted.

Factories Act, 1961

The following tables shew the details required by the Factories Act, 1961.

TABLE 9 a

Part 1 of the Act

1. Inspections for the purposes of provisions as to health.

| Premises | No. on Register | No. of Inspections | No. of written Notices | Occupiers Prosecuted |
|---|-----------------|--------------------|------------------------|----------------------|
| (I) Factories in which Section 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities | 1 | 8 | — | — |
| (II) Factories not included in (I) above in which Section 7 is enforced by Local Authority | 14 | 42 | 1 | — |
| (III) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises) .. | 4 | 28 | — | — |
| TOTAL | 19 | 78 | 1 | Nil |

2. Cases in which defects were found

| Particulars | Number of cases in which defects were found | | | | Number of cases in which Prosecutions were instituted |
|---|---|----------|-------------------|-------------------|---|
| | Found | Remedied | Referred | | |
| | | | to H.M. Inspector | by H.M. Inspector | |
| (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) | (5) | (6) |
| Want of cleanliness (S.1) | Nil | Nil | Nil | Nil | Nil |
| Overcrowding (S.2) | Nil | Nil | Nil | Nil | Nil |
| Unreasonable temperature (S.3) | Nil | Nil | Nil | Nil | Nil |
| Inadequate ventilation (S. 4.) | Nil | Nil | Nil | Nil | Nil |
| Ineffective drainage of floors (S. 6) | Nil | Nil | Nil | Nil | Nil |
| Sanitary Convenience (S. 7) | | | | | |
| a(Insufficient | Nil | Nil | Nil | Nil | Nil |
| b(Unsuitable or defective | 1 | 1 | Nil | Nil | Nil |
| c Not separate for sexes | Nil | Nil | Nil | Nil | Nil |
| Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork) | Nil | Nil | Nil | Nil | Nil |
| TOTAL | 1 | 1 | Nil | Nil | Nil |

There are no persons registered as Outworkers within the Urban District.

Rodent Control

During the year, your Rodent Operative carried out various other treatments in dwellinghouses in addition to the treatments against rats and mice and these included:- Fleas (3), Wasps (2), Cockroaches (1), Bees (1), and Beetles (1).

All these treatments were successful.

The following tables shows the inspections, surveys and treatments carried out during the year.

| | | Type of Property | |
|-------------------------------------|---|------------------|--------------|
| | | Non-Agricultural | Agricultural |
| Properties other than Sewers | | | |
| 1. | (a) Total number of properties (including nearby premises) inspected following notification .. | 43 | 11 |
| | (b) Number infested by (i) Rats | 21 | 10 |
| | (ii) Mice | 8 | 1 |
| 2. | (a) Total number of properties inspected for rats and/or mice for reasons other than notification | 64 | 8 |
| | (b) Number infested by (i) Rats | 7 | 4 |
| | (ii) Mice | 2 | 1 |

To the Chairman and Members of the Council, Dr. T. M. B. Rohan, Medical Officer of Health, and Mr. T. C. Ellison, Clerk of the Council, I offer my thanks for their interest and help in the running of the department.

Workload increases steadily. Mr. W. Murray, Deputy Surveyor and Additional Public Health Inspector, and Mr. A. S. Kirkwood, Assistant Surveyor and Additional Public Health Inspector, have willingly taken up their share of this, as has Miss K. M. Morris, on whose desk some part of all this work arrives. My thanks go to them and to all the outside staff, who have worked well and cheerfully through the year.

I am, Madam and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

W. C. RANSON

Surveyor and Public Health Inspector

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LOFTUS
